

**TAKING OFF MY GLASSES TO “SEE” JAMAICA KINCAID:  
TOWARD HOLISTIC READING IN LITERATURE**

by

Nicole Aimée Bishop

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy  
(Comparative Literature)  
in The University of Michigan  
2009

Doctoral Committee:

Professor Frieda Ekotto, Chair  
Emeritus Professor Richard D. Mann  
Associate Professor Santiago Colás  
Associate Professor Jonathan M. Metz

Urging all of us to open our minds and hearts so that we can know beyond the boundaries of what is acceptable, so that we can think and rethink, so that we can create new visions, I celebrate teaching that enables transgressions- a movement which makes education the practice of freedom.”

- bell hooks

Out beyond ideas  
of wrongdoing and rightdoing,  
there is a field.

I'll meet you there.

When the soul lies down  
in that grass,  
the world is too full to talk about.

Ideas, language  
- even the phrase "each other" -  
do not make any sense.

- Rumi

© Nicole Aimée Bishop  
2009